



## 10-Year Plan Committee Operating Guidelines

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### Purpose

The purpose of this document is to outline the intent and operating guidelines of the 10-Year Plan Committee.

### Committee Charge

The charge of the committee is to advance implementation of the 10-Year Plan by providing input and making recommendations to the State of California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) to identify and resolve issues and concerns.

### Decision-Making

The Committee is developing recommendations on Salton Sea Management and will strive for consensus in its recommendations. The definition of consensus is that everyone can at least “live with” the outcome or recommendation. A member can “stand aside” and let the group reach consensus. This would still constitute a consensus agreement and outcome. When unable to reach consensus, the Committee will summarize different perspectives in the meeting summary for CNRA to consider in its final decision-making.

### Roles and Responsibilities

**Committee:** The role of the committee is to provide input and make recommendations to the State of California Natural Resources Agency. Whenever possible, Committee members will seek to resolve problems to advance progress on Salton Sea Management.

**Convener:** The California Natural Resources Agency convened the committee. The convener commits to running a fair process and considering the feedback in its final decision-making. The Assistant Secretary of Natural Resources will represent CNRA and weigh in on committee deliberations.

**Chair:** The committee chair will work with the Assistant Secretary of Natural Resources, the technical team, the facilitator, and committee members to identify meeting topics and design the meeting agenda to ensure the committee is able to fulfill its charge.

**Technical Staff:** Technical staff will share information and answer committee member questions. Technical staff do not weigh in on final recommendations.

**Facilitator:** The facilitator will design meetings and guide the process toward achieving its mutually agreed-upon purpose and goals. The facilitator will work with all the parties to ensure the process is credible, fair, and effective. The facilitator will facilitate

effective meetings; identify and synthesize points of agreement and disagreement; assist in building consensus among members; and serve as a confidential communication channel for members and other stakeholders who wish to express views privately because they do not feel comfortable doing so in a larger group or to facilitate problem solving and conflict resolution.

If a member has a concern about neutrality or performance of the facilitator, s/he should raise the concern first with the facilitator and then with the chair and Assistant Secretary of Natural Resource.

## **Process Agreements**

All meetings are open to the public. Some meetings may be closed to the public due to the proprietary nature of the presentations.

Everyone is committed to negotiating in good faith.

Everyone agrees to address the issues and concerns of all participants and create a problem-solving environment, treating concerns as problems to be solved rather than battles to be won.

Everyone agrees to inform their leadership and constituents about the outcome of the facilitated discussions.

## **Working Together**

Participants and the facilitator will work together to create a problem-solving environment and follow these agreements to that aim:

Listen to understand and encourage others to contribute

Focus on the topic

All ideas and points of view have value

Be honest, fair, and as candid as possible

Think innovatively and welcome new ideas, creative thinking, and problem solving

Invite humor and good will

Be comfortable

## **Media**

Committee members reserve the freedom to express their own opinions to media representatives, but not opinions of others nor on behalf of the committee. Participants can refer media inquiries to members for individual comments or to the Assistant Secretary of Natural Resources for comments on committee deliberations or outcomes.

## **Membership Criteria**

The goal of committee membership is to have a range of interests in the Salton Sea to participate in the committee. Members represent a constituency that they can keep abreast of the process and outcomes.